



NLG NEWSLETTER

Official Publication of the Numismatic Literary Guild

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Winter 2007

Zinger-Time In The Rockies!

DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE:

By Ed Reiter

Reading about the severe winter weather in Denver in recent weeks, I've found myself reflecting on the pleasant summer days many of us shared at the 2006 convention of the American Numismatic Association. In particular, I'm reminded of the time we spent together at the latest edition of the NLG's annual Bash.

I've been attending Bashes since 1972 and helping prepare skits since 1982, and I still get a sense of anticipation (and a little apprehension) prior to each gathering and a feeling of euphoria (and relief!) after each successful performance. I like to think that over the years, we've had more hits than misses.

Last summer's Denver Bash drew a large, friendly audience ready to be entertained – and judging from the laughter and applause, that mission was accomplished with our formidable weapons of mass distraction.

As always, the evening's highlight was the naming of our newest Clemy winner. The choice this time – clearly a popular one – was Barbara Gregory, editor of *Numismatist*, the ANA's official monthly journal.

"I'm speechless and a little choked up," she said after accepting the award from the previous year's winner, Carlton "Fred" Schwan. "I love what I do."

Unwittingly, Barbara had played a key role in events leading up to the Clemy presentation. Schwan, who selected her from a list of nominees submitted by the Board of Directors – suggested that she bring the original Clemy award, a 90-pound, gold-plated typewriter, from its home at ANA Headquarters in nearby Colorado Springs so Bash attendees could see it up close at the convention. Little did she know she would end up driving home with it – with a spot reserved for her name on the engraved honor roll of winners.



As many Bash-goers had anticipated, the ANA itself was "honored" with songs and skits driven home by our usual band of would-be coin comedians.

Emcee Wendell Wolka narrated a hilarious PowerPoint presentation describing and illustrating recent developments in the numismatic field – many, not surprisingly, tied to the spate of controversies at ANA Headquarters.

Bob Julian and Dave Alexander furnished a helpful list of the Top 10 "benefits" of ANA life membership. Among them: a souvenir album of John Wilson's greatest photographs; advance notice of all new firings at ANA Headquarters; and – No. 1, naming rights to Chris Cipoletti's office.

Cipoletti's name also was taken in vain in the old standby Carnac routine, in which the gifted seer divines the questions that correspond to answers read by genial sidekick Scott Travers – even though they're hermetically sealed in convention-hotel envelopes. Dave Harper made his debut as Carnac – and when Travers read the two-word answer "The Terminator," he readily supplied the correct question: "Name Chris Cipoletti's favorite movie." (cont. on page 2)

The ANA wasn't the evening's only target, of course. Consider these other answers and questions:

Whitman Sampler. (What do you call an assortment of the 1,000 latest books from Whitman Publishing?)

Gross Domestic Product. (How would you describe a typical new coin from the U.S. Mint?)

My personal contribution to the Colorado Zings laugh-in was a parody of "Mame," the title song from the 1960s Broadway musical about the iconoclastic Auntie Mame. Retitled "Shame," it took a jaundiced look at the eyebrow-raising removal of Walter Ostromecki from the ANA Board of Governors. To make the "tribute" even more meaningful, Ostromecki made a special personal appearance to join me in delivering the song.

After hearing Walt's quavering voice, I found it hard to believe that anyone could accuse him of "singing" about the ANA's deep, dark secrets – or, if he did, that anyone could understand what he was singing about.

For the benefit of those who couldn't decipher the lyrics the night of the Bash, we're printing them elsewhere in this issue of the *Newsletter*.

Following the songs and skits, the evening turned more serious as the Guild announced the winners of the 2006 Writers' Competition. The contest always draws hundreds of entries in dozens of different categories – but this time, interest was unusually high, and so was the flood of books, articles, videos and other materials that poured into our reception center.

Competition was especially hot and heavy in the book categories, and the quality was well above average. In fact, quite a few entries were serious contenders for the Book of the Year award – a coveted honor for which there are usually no more than two or three top-flight candidates.

As it was, the judges ended up anointing two winners because they dealt with such widely differing subjects and yet were both superlative works of numismatic writing. One was *Renaissance of American Coinage 1916-1921* by Roger W. Burdette, part of a superb trilogy on the magnificent new U.S. coins introduced in the early years of the 20th century. The other was *The Coin Collector's Survival Manual, Fifth Edition* by Scott Travers, a wonderful update and upgrade of a book that has become the gold standard of coin investment guides.

In addition to transporting the Clemy typewriter to Denver, Barbara Gregory also made arrangements for the delicious desserts enjoyed by Bash-goers. Generous contributions from Guild patrons subsidized the cost of the program, and I'd like to express my personal thanks to these loyal friends – Heritage Rare Coin Galleries (Jim Halperin and Steve Ivy), Intercept Shield (John Albanese) and Universal Coin and Bullion (Mike Fuljenz).

Earlier in the day, our annual symposium examined the growing role of women in numismatic writing. The speakers, all of whom have enjoyed great success in that field, were Barbara Gregory; Beth Deisher, editor of *Coin World*; and Dorothy Harris, former director of antiques and collectibles for Random House.

Jeff Shoop, publisher of *COINage*, and Bob Van Ryzin, editor of *Coins Magazine*, were reelected to the Board of Directors. Each is now serving his second two-year term. The other three Board members, likewise holdovers, are Tom DeLorey, Barbara Gregory and Dorothy Harris.

I'd like to express special thanks to Wendell Wolka, who does so much to make each Bash truly memorable as our inimitable emcee; Scott Travers, who coordinates the Writers' Competition with such amazing efficiency; and the dedicated volunteers who serve in appointed capacities: Kay Lenker and Maurice Rosen, co-treasurers; Walt Ostromecki, secretary; David L. Ganz, legal counsel; and Howard Berlin, Web master.

Last but far from least, I want to thank Sal Germano for donating the use of his premises each year for storage of the many entries in the Writers' Competition. This represents a major inconvenience, but Sal does it cheerfully – even taking time from his busy schedule to give callers detailed instructions on how to submit entries. This is far above and beyond the call of duty.

I, for one, left the Denver convention feeling a mile high about how our programs were received. And I look forward eagerly to doing it all over again this summer in Milwaukee.

See you there!



Editor's Notes

by Michael Sedgwick



As the years have gone by, one coin show has followed the last, seemingly with increasing speed, while ongoing communications maintained old friendships and built new ones. Then before you know it – rather like coins – an individual memory becomes part of a collection!

When I read Mel Wacks' piece (page 4 in this issue) it brought back so many of those personal memories to me, as I am sure it will for you too. The names leap off the page, provoking recall of events, meetings and telephone conversations and for me some pretty proud moments when, as a novice writer of British Royal Mint press releases, I would see my words and phrases being used in an article by one of the columnists to whom Mel refers.

Of course, certain special memories stand more clearly in the mind. Ed Reiter and I still marvel at the incredible ineptitude and stupidity of his New York Times features editor, who single-handedly managed to screw up his column unveiling the new Britannia gold bullion coin in 1987. Ed very nicely – and professionally as always – wrote as fully as his space allowed about the reverse design and the history of the Britannia in British coinage going back to Roman times. Quite obviously, the subject was the new reverse design. So what did the features editor lady do??? With space for only one photo, she chose the obverse of the coin bearing the portrait of the Queen, which appeared on all the United Kingdom's circulating coins. Quite amazing!!

A much happier memory, although not at the time it happened, was the occasion of the Milwaukee Convention when seven inches of rain fell on the city and airport just prior to my arrival. The flight was diverted to Green Bay and we all had to come down to Milwaukee by coach. I found myself sitting next to a very friendly couple from New Jersey. They made the journey pleasant and much shorter than it would otherwise have been. In case you haven't guessed, the couple was Harold and Silvia Flartey. Harold and I kept in touch thereafter, and he

would send taped recordings of his favourite jazz pianist, Marion McPartland. I remember with amusement his note paper which (close but not exactly) said: "What a beautiful day, until some -- -- louses it up!" I know I have it tucked away somewhere! A few years ago, just before he passed on, Harold came into New York with his son to join us for the launch of the Princess Diana Memorial coin. Our reunion just delighted me!

Then there was a lunch at a restaurant in NYC with a (still NLG member) friend, where we both were very excited to sit two tables along from football commentator legend, the late Howard Cosell. Also a visit to the Roosevelt Library with another special friend, and the invitation to a back room viewing of some of President FDR's coin collection.

This Christmas brought a card from another couple who have become dear friends over the years signed "YIFAN" – "yours in friendship and numismatics". In addition to the pleasure that the card gave me in receiving it, I thought again about Mel's column; about those coin shows, about the phone calls and visits, and the pleasure I have in knowing so many folks in the hobby.

Now I realize that while I don't really know a planchet from an error variety, I do know that the Hobby has enabled me the privilege of meeting a lot of wonderful, fine, caring people and I'm thrilled that I can say "YIFAN" right back at them!



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Are You Ready to Join the American Association to Save Coin Columnists from Extinction?

By Mel Wacks, NLG

Long before there were computers, I had mailing labels for sending out press releases now and then to coin publications and coin columnists in newspapers throughout the country. Thank goodness, the coin newspapers and magazines are still here, and there are even a few more than in the old days. But coin columnists in the general press are a vanishing breed, perhaps with the destiny of passenger pigeons and dodo birds. Their columns used to appear alongside stamps, bridge and chess articles, when I suppose people were able to have fun. Today fun consists of telling your Aunt Tillie on your cell phone the exciting news that you are waiting in line at the post office ... or answering your Blackberry messages when you are supposed to be on vacation in Tahiti ... or having someone ringing your telephone at 3 a.m. - trying to send you a fax - when you don't even have a fax machine!

My crumbling old label printouts are turning brown with age, but you can still make out the names of Ed Reiter when his column appeared in the Sunday New York Times, Ed Quagliana writing for the Suburban & Wayne Times, Joel Sable of the Boston Globe, Robert Aaron up in Toronto, Robert Witty at Copley New Service, Richard Carr in Ft. Lauderdale, Bill McAllister at the Washington Post, the late Leon Lindheim in Cleveland, Gerald Tebben of the Columbus Dispatch, Roger Boye of the Chicago Tribune, freelance writer Bob Obojski, and others like the late Harold Flartey (New Jersey), Susan Cherry (Detroit), Don Alpert (Los Angeles), and so on. Yes, there still are three or four coin columnists writing for general newspapers, but who knows how long that will last.

The sad thing is that leisure time seems to be going the way of coin columnists, disappearing a little more each year. And at the same time, more people are being sold coins via telemarketing, on home shopping channels, and full-page newspaper ads than ever before. Most of these people think they are buying investments, when they are destined to lose money on their purchases. It would be so easy for someone to call a dealer in the Yellow Pages

and ask if a limited-edition collection of gold-plated State Quarters or Albert Einstein commemorative coins from Lower Slobovia are a good investment ... but they almost never make that call. Sometimes they are out a few dollars, but other times they can "invest" thousands of dollars in cleaned, overgraded coins. Perhaps if they had a chance to read a weekly coin column these people would learn what a wonderful hobby numismatics is, and to be wary of fast-talking sales people or misleading ads offering coins as investments.

So can anything be done? Well, buffalos are still roaming, and whooping cranes are still whooping, so maybe there is hope. But animals have not been able to save themselves from extinction - they have had help. We need the AASCCE (American Association to Save Coin Columnists from Extinction)! Seriously, it's time to think outside of the box. Newspapers are not known for their altruism - but they are worried about the bottom line. What if we gathered together a group of dealers and organizations who would promise to advertise alongside a weekly or bi-weekly coin column? How about the ANA, PNG, and Heritage as the nucleus of these advertisers, along with one or more of the grading services? The NLG could get 3 or 4 writers to rotate as creators of the column. You can put me down as one. What do you think? If we don't do something to reverse this trend, who will? Sure, the NLG is fun and gives out awards to deserving individuals. But wouldn't it be great if we could really make a difference?



*Dave Harper & Scott Travers at NLG bash
– The Carnak Routine!*

2006 NLG Winners!

BOOKS

BOOK OF THE YEAR— The work having the greatest potential

impact on numismatics:

(Tie) *Renaissance of American Coinage, 1916-1921*, by Roger W. Burdette **and** *The Coin Collector's Survival Manual, Fifth Edition*, by Scott A. Travers

BEST SPECIALIZED BOOK

United States Coins: *Encyclopedia of U.S. Gold Coins, 1795-1933*, by Jeff Garrett and Ron Guth

World Coins: *Money of the Bible*, by Kenneth Bressett

U.S. Paper Money: *Collecting Confederate Paper Money*, by Pierre Fricke, edited by Stephen Goldsmith

World Paper Money: *Standard Catalog of World Paper Money, Specialized Issues, 10th Edition*, George S. Cuhaj, Editor

Tokens and Medals: *The Medals Concerning John Law and the Mississippi System*, by John W. Adams

Numismatic Investments: *The Coin Collector's Survival Manual, 5th Edition*, by Scott A. Travers

Museum and Exhibition Catalog: *iViva La Revolucion! The Money of the Mexican Revolution*, by Don Bailey and Joe Flores

Extraordinary

Merit:

Million Dollar Nickels, by Paul Montgomery, Mark Borchardt and Ray Knight

The 1894-S Dime, A Mystery Unraveled, by Kevin Flynn

A Guide Book of United States Coins 2007, 60th Edition, by R.S. Yeoman, edited by Kenneth E. Bressett

United States Gold Counterfeit Detection Guide, by Bill Fivaz

A Grading Guide to the Top 25 Most Widely Collected U.S. Coins, by Beth Deisher

Collecting Lucky Coins, Tokens and Medals, by Rita Laws

100 Greatest American Currency Notes, by Q. David Bowers and David M. Sundman

The Forgotten Mint of Colonial Panama, by Jorge A. Proctor

The Comprehensive Catalog of U.S. Paper Money, Seventh Edition, by Gene Hessler and Carlson Chambliss

World Monetary Units: An Historical

Dictionary, Country by Country, by Howard M. Berlin

The Expert's Guide to Collecting and Investing in Rare Coins, by Q. David Bowers

U.S. COMMERCIAL NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

Coins: "A National Treasure," Leon Worden, *COINage*

Tokens & Medals: "Presidential Medals," R.W. Julian, *COINage*

Paper Money: "A Woman's Touch," Gene Hessler, *COINage*

BEST COLUMN

"My Two Cents' Worth," Ed Reiter, *COINage*

BEST ISSUE

Coin World's Paper Money Values, Summer 2006, Beth Deisher, Editor

WORLD COMMERCIAL NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

Coins: "Aphrodite: Classical Greek Goddess of War," Derek R. Smith, *The Celator*

Tokens & Medals: "124 Patriots of Ireland, A Numismatic Mystery," Thomas H. Sebring, *World Coin News*

Paper Money: "Costa Rica Says Hello to San Francisco," Paul Green

BEST COLUMN

"From A to Z," Bob Reis, *World Coin News*

BEST ISSUE

The Celator, January 2006, Kerry Wetterstrom, Editor

NON-PROFIT OR CLUB NUMISMATIC MAGAZINES

BEST ARTICLE, LARGE PUBLICATIONS

"The Treasury Notes of the War of 1812," Donald Kagin, *Paper Money*

BEST COLUMN, LARGE PUBLICATIONS

"Early American Money," John J. Kraljevich Jr., *Numismatist*

BEST ISSUE, LARGE PUBLICATIONS

Paper Money, May/June 2006, Fred L. Reed III, Editor

BEST ARTICLE, SMALL PUBLICATIONS

"A New Birth of Freedom: The American Civil War Collection at the ANS," Robert W. Hoge, *American*

Numismatic Society Magazine

BEST COLUMN, SMALL PUBLICATIONS

"Current Cabinet Activities," Robert W. Hoge, *American Numismatic Society Magazine*

BEST ISSUE, SMALL PUBLICATIONS

American Numismatic Society Magazine, Winter 2005, Ute Wartenberg Kagan, Editor

Extraordinary

Merit:

Penny-Wise, November 2005, Harry Salyards, Editor

NUMISMATIC NEWSPAPERS

BEST SPOT NEWS STORY OR CONTINUING COVERAGE OF DEVELOPING STORY IN NUMISMATICS

(Tie) Coverage of the 10 seized 1933 double eagles, R.W. Julian and David Ganz, *Numismatic News*, and Paul Gilkes, *Coin World*

BEST ARTICLE OR SERIES OF ARTICLES

Coins: "Quarters Were Not Mint's First Concern," R.W. Julian, *Numismatic News*
Paper Money: "Traders Bank of Rochester Lasts Until 1924," Karl S. Kabelac, *Bank Note Reporter*

Tokens & Medals: "Medals to the Rescue," Rita Laws, *Coin World*

BEST COLUMN

"Shades of the Blue and Grey," Fred L. Reed III, *Bank Note Reporter*

BEST ISSUE

Coin World, July 25, 2005, Beth Deisher, Editor

NON-NUMISMATIC

PUBLICATIONS

BEST COLUMN:

"Making Cents," Dr. Sol Taylor, *The Signal*, Santa Clarita, CA

BEST ARTICLE:

"Beware of Buying Coins at Swap Meets, Garage Sales," Dr. Sol Taylor, *The Signal*, Santa Clarita, CA

COMPUTER SOFTWARE AND INTERNET WEB SITES

BEST WEB SITE ARTICLE

"The Flying Eagle Cent: The Start of Something Small in U.S. Coins," Ed Reiter, littletoncoin.com, Littleton Coin Company

BEST DEALER WEB SITE

heritagecoin.com, Heritage Rare Coins. Brian Shipman, Michael Weems and Ryan Sokol, Web Site Managers

BEST NON-COMMERCIAL WEB SITE

www.money.org. American Numismatic Association, Gail Baker, Web Master

BEST TRADE PRESS WEB SITE

www.HeritageAuctionArchives.com, Heritage Rare Coin Galleries, Brian Shipman and Ryan Sokol, Web Site Managers

BEST NON-NUMISMATIC PRESS WEB SITE

soltaylor.com, *The Signal*, Santa Clarita, CA. Leon Worden, Senior Editor

BEST SOFTWARE

The Coin Collector's Survival Manual, Software Edition, Scott A. Travers, Author; Tom Bilotta, Carlisle Development Corp., Producer

**AUCTION CATALOGS
BEST AUCTION
CATALOG: COINS AND**

CURRENCY

"The Jules Reiver Collection," Heritage Numismatic Auctions

BEST AUCTION

CATALOG: BOOKS AND EXONUMIA:

"John J. Ford Jr. Collection, Part XIII," Stack's

Extraordinary

Merit:

"Orders & Decorations From the Collection of the American Numismatic Society," Morton & Eden
"The Cardinal Collection & A Gentlemen's Collection," American Numismatic Rarities

COMMERCIAL PUBLICATIONS

LEE MARTIN FOUNDER'S AWARD for Best Investment Newsletter

Maurice Rosen, *The Rosen Numismatic Advisory*

Extraordinary

Merit:

Michael R. Fuljenz, *Investor's Profit Advisory*

BEST DEALER-PUBLISHED MAGAZINE OR NEWSPAPER

The Numismatic Sun, American Numismatic Rarities, Q. David Bowers, Editor

AUDIO-VISUAL

BEST COMMERCIAL VIDEO

"Selling Your Coins & Currency at Auction," Heritage Numismatic Auctions, Written by John Petty; Produced and Directed by David Lisot

BEST TV PRESENTATION

"Coin Auction," Heritage Rare Coin Galleries

**COMMERCIAL TV
SPECIAL RECOGNITION**

"Cable TV Ripoffs,"
Inside Edition,
Larry Posner, Producer

**BEST WRITER IN NLG
NEWSLETTER**

Jeff Starck

**BEST ALL-AROUND
PORTFOLIO**

John Andrew

Extraordinary Merit:

Donald H. Dool

**CLEMENT F. BAILEY
MEMORIAL AWARD,
BEST NEW WRITER**

Dom Yanchunas, *COINage*

Extraordinary Merit:

Emily Mullins, *Coin
World*, and Leon
Worden, *COINage*

**JAMES L. MILLER
MEMORIAL AWARD**

Dom Yanchunas, *COINage*,
"Israel Switt"

Clemy Award Winners

1968	Clement F. Bailey	1987	David T. Alexander
1969	Edward C. Rochette	1988	James L. Miller
1970	Lee Martin	1989	Q. David Bowers
1971	Margo Russell	1990	David L. Ganz
1972	Virginia Culver	1991	Clifford Mishler
1973	Maurice M. Gould	1992	R.W. Julian
1974	Eva B. Adams	1993	Russell Rulau
1975	Ray Byrne	1994	Elvira Clain Stefanelli
1976	Chester L. Krause	1995	Beth Deisher
1977	Richard S. Yeoman	1996	Col. Bill Murray
1978	Lee F. Hewitt	1997	Alan Herbert
1979	Abe Kosoff	1998	Burnett Anderson
1980	Glenn Smedley	1999	Thomas K. DeLorey
1981	Arlie Slabaugh	2000	Wendell A. Wolka
1982	Eric P. Newman	2001	David C. Harper
1983	Kenneth Bressett	2002	Scott A. Travers
1984	Donn Pearlman	2003	Bill Fivaz
1985	Walter Breen	2004	Neil Shafer
1986	Ed Reiter	2005	Carlton "Fred" Schwan

2006 Barbara Gregory

IN APPRECIATION

For serving as judges in the 2006 NLG Writer's Competition:
Thomas K. DeLorey, David L. Ganz, Barbara Gregory,
Dorothy Harris, Robert W. Julian, Donn Pearlman, Ed Reiter,
Maurice H. Rosen and Dom Yanchunas.

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have enriched **COINage** magazine since 1964.

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PAUL GREEN DIES AT 57

Paul M. Green, one of the coin hobby's most prolific writers, died Aug. 20 at the age of 57 after suffering an apparent heart attack at his home in San Juan, Costa Rica. His death was a shock to friends and fans in the numismatic field, many of whom had just returned home from the Denver convention of the American Numismatic Association.

Paul himself did not attend the convention. Not surprisingly, though, he was announced as a winner in the 2006 NLG Writers' Competition: One of his stories, "Costa Rica Says Hello to San Francisco," was named Best Paper Money Article in a World Commercial Magazine. The article had been published in *World Coin News*, and the editor of that publication, Dave Harper, accepted the award on Paul's behalf.

Paul Green grew up in Middletown, N.Y., a distant suburb of New York City, but spent much of his adult life as a resident of Wisconsin, where he attended Beloit College, graduating in 1971.

After nearly a decade as a political watchdog in Wisconsin's state capital, Madison, Paul tried his hand at writing and truly found his niche. Since 1980, his byline has appeared thousands of times in major numismatic periodicals as well as publications devoted to sports collectibles, another area in which he possessed great interest and considerable

expertise. He was author or co-author of several books on both subjects.

At the time of his death, he was a regular contributor to Krause numismatic periodicals, notably *Numismatic News*, *Coins Magazine* and *World Coin News*. His output was so prodigious that even now, months later, previously unpublished examples of his work are still appearing regularly in those periodicals.

In an editorial tribute, Dave Harper described Paul as a writer who "always went the extra mile."

"Not for him was there any permission required," Harper said. "He just wrote and wrote. If I couldn't use his output one week, why, wait a couple of weeks and I would soon figure out how timely and useful the pieces were. They usually were. Sometimes he was so good at spotting new trends that he was ahead of everyone else. It was amazing."

Paul won dozens of NLG writing awards through the years. In addition, he took part in several NLG symposiums in the 1980s, chairing one forum on numismatic reprints at the 1986 ANA convention in Milwaukee.

He is survived by his widow, Mayela Santana Ruiz; a brother, David, in New York; and an uncle in Florida.

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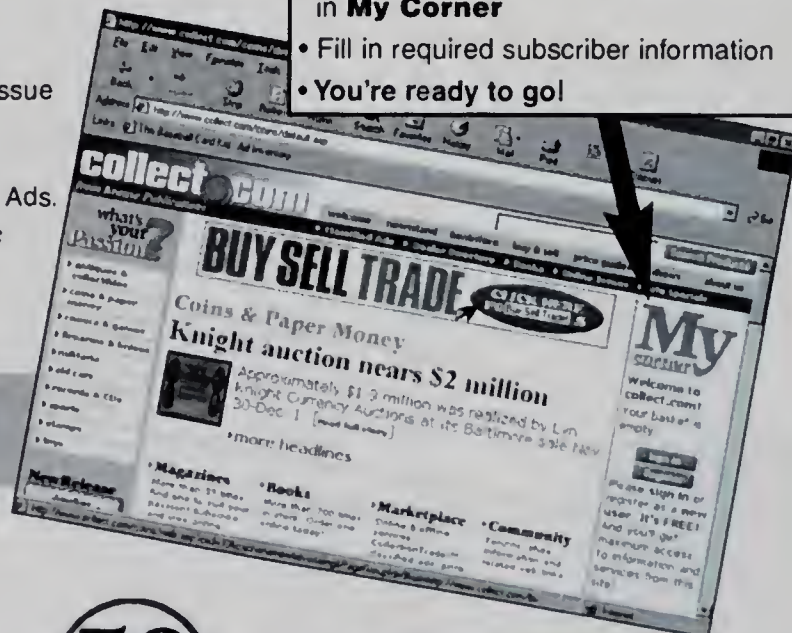
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ACHIEVING PARODY WITH THE ANA

By Ed Reiter

Springtime in the Rockies can't come soon enough for winter-weary residents of Colorado. At last count, the Centennial State had been battered by three major snowstorms this winter – and by the time this issue of the *NLG Newsletter* is delivered to you by Express mail (Pony, not Federal), that number may be even higher.

Some might argue that snow jobs have become year-round events in one Colorado community, judging from letters in the numismatic press extolling the virtues of the American Numismatic Association and the joys of gainful (if short-lived) employment at that Colorado Springs institution. (There also have been letters, of course, from the growing number of former staff members who found their employment not so much gainful as painful.)

The ANA has certainly caused a flurry of excitement in the numismatic world well beyond the borders of Colorado, unleashing a storm of protest with policies and practices that specialized collectors might file under the heading “odd and curious.”

One of the odder – and more highly publicized – episodes in the ANA's Rocky recent history was the removal of California educator Walter Ostromecki from the Board of Governors shortly after his election in 2005. His “crime,” it appears, was breaking a code of silence meant to muzzle Board members from revealing “sensitive” information. He did this by responding to an e-mail from one of three benefactors willing to – horror of horrors – donate \$500,000 in return for “naming rights” to the ANA Museum.

And just whose name did they want to honor? Adolf Hitler? Osama bin-Laden? Eva Adams? No, they wanted the museum named for Edward C. Rochette, who served the ANA long and well as editor and executive director.

Always quick to recognize a trend or spot a likely target, your NLG Parody Police decided to immortalize Ostromecki's ouster by making it the subject of a special musical “tribute” at last summer's Bash in Denver. To make the occasion even more memorable, I invited Walt to join me in singing it.

Truth be told, Walt sings as though he were wearing a muzzle. He brought plenty of enthusiasm to the task, however – and just being there seemed to give him a new leash on life.

By the way, the words are (meant to be) sung to the tune of the 1960s Broadway hit “Mame” and take the form of a (secret) salute to the people who added Walt's name to the long list of ANA “temps.”

SHAME

You kicked poor Walt right off of the Board.

Sha-ame!

When folks asked why, they all were ignored.

Sha-ame!

*I guess that vow of secrecy
Matters more than doing what you should.
We'll all just have to learn to be
Trusting that Big Brother knows what's good.*

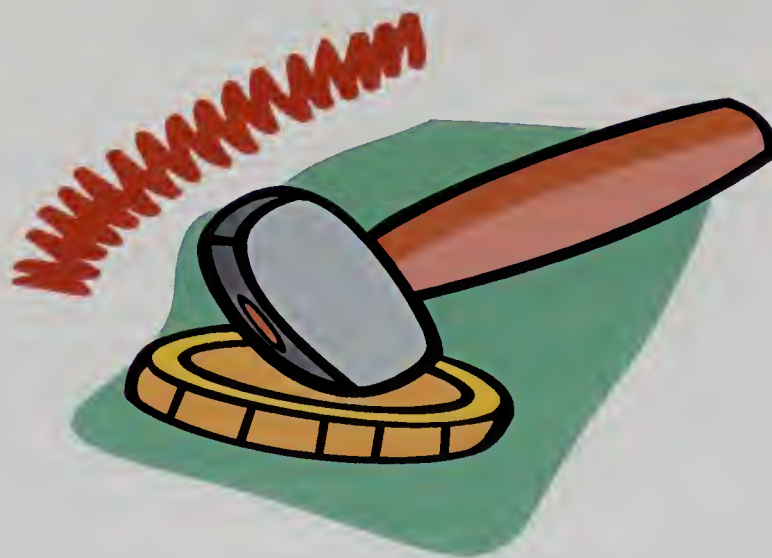
*If he's as bad as some people say,
Sha-ame!*

*Just wish we knew what wrongdoing they
Cla-aim.*

*It's nice with phantom charges
That Fanton is the new Board member's name.*

*You've made the good old ANA,
Look like the hooded KKK.
Take off those sooty sheets today.
Shame!*

###



WORK FOR THE BEST!

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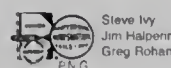
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